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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 5092
Masaki IJIMA et al. : Docket No. 2001-0271A
Serial No. 09/801,720 : Group Art Unit 1754
Filed March 9, 2001 : Examiner Jonas N. Strickland

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METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
SYNTHESIS GAS

RESPONSE

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated February 12, 2003, please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claims 1 and 5 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a synthesis gas containing hydrogen and carbon monoxide, which comprises steps of;
- removing only hydrogen sulfide from a natural gas containing hydrogen sulfide and carbon dioxide by permitting the natural gas to pass through a hydrogen sulfide-removing device filled with a hydrogen sulfide adsorbent;
- adding carbon dioxide and steam to the natural gas from which the hydrogen sulfide has been removed to prepare a mixed gas; and